

CITY OF DURHAM Office of Public Affairs 101 CITY HALL PLAZA DURHAM, NC 27701

News Release

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New DPAC Marquees Unveiled December 17th

DURHAM, N.C. – Those traveling along South Mangum Street in downtown Durham on Thursday evening will note two new marquees illuminating the night sky from the <u>Durham Performing Arts Center (DPAC)</u>.

On Thursday, December 17, 2015, at 6 p.m., residents and theatre goers are invited to the unveiling ceremony for the new marquees, which will take place on the opening night of <u>Ira David Wood III's A Christmas Carol</u>. This event, located outside the DPAC Ticket Center at 123 Vivian St., will feature remarks from Mayor William V. "Bill" Bell, who will then 'flip the switch' to illuminate the new \$450,000 marquees, which will display current and upcoming events.

This newest addition to DPAC joins other recent building improvements made by the City this year, totaling more than \$1.4 million. In addition to the new marquees, the City recently made \$200,000 in improvements for new furnishings and equipment for the <u>Johnson Lexus</u>

<u>President's Club hospitality area</u>. Another \$640,000 improvement was an additional women's restroom located in the Orchestra lobby, which increases women's restroom capacity by 33 percent, as well as \$120,000 for added security and access improvements to the DPAC Entry Lobby and Ticket Center.

The \$1.4 million in improvements were paid for through the City's DPAC Fund (page V-36 in the City's FY 2015/2016 Fund Summaries budget document), which is used for debt service, maintenance, building improvements and other possible revenue shortfalls, including naming rights and hotel/motel occupancy tax.

The City owns DPAC, which is managed by <u>PFM/Nederlander</u>, operators of the performing arts and entertainment facilities in America and worldwide.

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